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# Before the COPYRIGHT ROYALTY JUDGES Washington, D.C.

In re )	
Distribution of Cable Royalty Funds )	Docket No. 19-CRB-0010-CD
In re	Docket No. 19-CRB-0011-SD
Distribution of Satellite Royalty Funds )	Docket No. 17 CRD 0011 5D

# SUPPLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM REGARDING THE ALLOCATION PHASE PARTIES' MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL DISTRIBUTIONS OF 2018 CABLE AND SATELLITE ROYALTIES

In May, the undersigned Allocation Phase Parties filed motions for partial distributions of 40% of the 2018 cable and satellite royalty funds pursuant to Section 801(b)(3)(C) of the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 803(b)(3)(C). Together, these Motions seek the distribution of approximately \$94 million in 2018 cable and satellite royalties on deposit with the Copyright Office. The Allocation Phase Parties submit this supplemental memorandum to report on the status of these requests and to respectfully request that the Judges promptly grant their Motions.

No party has asserted a reasonable objection to the requested partial distributions. As required by Section 801(b)(3)(C), on May 18, 2020, the Judges published notices in the Federal Register seeking comment on both of the Allocation Phase Parties' partial distribution requests. Distribution of 2018 Cable Royalty Funds, 85 Fed. Reg. 29,753 (May 18, 2020); Distribution of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Motion of the Allocation Phase Parties for Partial Distribution of 2018 Cable Royalty Funds, 10-CRB-0010-CD (May 11, 2020); Motion of the Allocation Phase Parties for Partial Distribution of 2018 Satellite Royalty Funds, 19-CRB-0011-SD (May 11, 2020). Public Television Claimants, Canadian Claimants Group, and NPR do not participate in proceedings concerning the distribution of satellite royalties, and therefore did not join the Allocation Phase Parties' motion for partial distribution of the 2018 satellite royalty funds.

2018 Satellite Royalty Funds, 85 Fed. Reg. 29,753 (May 18, 2020). Only one party, David Powell, filed a response to the Judges' notices. *See* Comments and or Objection to 2018 40% Satellite and Cable Partial Distribution of Royalty Funds, 19-CRB-0011-SD (2018) & 19-CRB-0010-CD (2018) (June 17, 2020). Mr. Powell fails to raise a reasonable objection to either requested partial distribution. Mr. Powell's comments are indecipherable, and fail to demonstrate even that Mr. Powell is entitled to a distribution of 2018 cable or satellite royalties at all, much less that the funds that are the subject of the parties' partial distribution requests are in controversy. Indeed, Mr. Powell—who has never been found to be entitled to any royalties collected pursuant to the cable and satellite compulsory licenses—has a long track record of filing meritless objections to partial distribution requests, of which this is merely the latest example. *See, e.g.*, Order Granting Allocation Phase Parties' Motion for Partial Distribution of 2015 Satellite Royalties, 17-CRB-0011-SD (2015) (Nov. 7, 2018) (ordering the partial distribution of 60% of the 2015 satellite royalty fund, notwithstanding Mr. Powell's objections, which the Judges found to be "barely comprehensible" and devoid of "cogent arguments in opposition to the requested distribution").

For all of the above reasons, the Allocation Phase Parties respectfully request that the Judges grant their Motions at the Judges' first convenience. Prompt action on the Motions is particularly important given the financial challenges posed by the pandemic.

#### Respectfully Submitted,

#### **PROGRAM SUPPLIERS**

/s/ Gregory Olaniran

Gregory O. Olaniran D.C. Bar No. 455784 Lucy Holmes Plovnick D.C. Bar No. 488752

MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP

LLP

1818 N Street N.W., 8th Floor Washington, D.C. 20036 Telephone: (202) 355-7817

Fax: (202) 355-7887 goo@msk.com lhp@msk.com

#### JOINT SPORTS CLAIMANTS

/s/ Michael Kientzle

Daniel A. Cantor
DC Bar No. 457115)
Michael Kientzle
DC Bar No. 1008361
ARNOLD & PORTER KAYE SCHOLER
LLP

601 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 202.942.5000 (voice) 202.942.5999 (facsimile) Daniel.Cantor@arnoldporter.com

Michael.Kientzle@arnoldporter.com

#### **PUBLIC TELEVISION CLAIMANTS**

/s/ Ronald Dove

Ronald G. Dove, Jr. DC Bar No. 430533

**Dustin Cho** 

DC Bar No. 1017751

**COVINGTON & BURLING LLP** 

One CityCenter

850 Tenth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20268

Telephone: (202) 662-5685

Fax: (202) 662-6291 rdove@cov.com

## COMMERCIAL TELEVISION CLAIMAINTS

/s/ David Ervin

John I. Stewart, Jr. DC Bar No. 913905

David Ervin

DC Bar No. 445013

**CROWELL & MORING LLP** 

1001 Pennsylvania Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20004-2595

Telephone: (202) 624-2685

Fax: (202) 628-5116 jstewart@crowell.com

#### CANADIAN CLAIMANTS GROUP

/s/ Victor Cosentino

Victor J. Cosentino LARSON & GASTON, LLP CA Bar No. 163672

200 S. Los Robles Ave, Suite 530

Pasadena, CA 91101 Tel: (626) 795-0016

victor.cosentino@larsongaston.com

#### **DEVOTIONAL CLAIMANTS**

/s/ Arnold Lutzker

Arnold P. Lutzker DC Bar No. 101816 Benjamin Sternberg DC Bar No. 1016576

Jeannette M. Carmadella

DC Bar No. 500586

LUTZKER & LUTZKER LLP

1233 20th Street, NW, Suite 703

Washington, DC 20036 Telephone: (202) 408-7600

Fax: (202) 408-7677 arnie@lutzker.com

Matthew J. MacLean

DC Bar No. 479257

Michael A. Warley

DC Bar No. 1028686

Jessica T. Nyman

D.C. Bar No. 1030613

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW

PITTMAN LLP

1200 Seventeenth Street, NW

Washington DC 20036

Tel: (202) 663-8183

Fax: (202) 663-8007

Matthew.MacLean@pillsburylaw.com

#### NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

/s/ Gregory Lewis

Jonathan D. Hart

DC Bar No. 404828

Gregory A. Lewis

DC Bar No. 420907

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO, INC.

1111 North Capitol Street, NE

Washington, DC 20002

Telephone: (202) 513-2050

Fax: (202) 513-3021 glewis@npr.org

### AMERICAN SOCIETY OF COMPOSERS, AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS

/s/ Samuel Mosenkis

Samuel Mosenkis

NY Bar No. 2628915

**ASCAP** 

250 West 57th Street, 14th Floor New York,

NY 10107

Telephone: (212) 621-6450

Fax: (212) 787-1381 smosenkis@ascap.com

#### **BROADCAST MUSIC, INC.**

/s/ Brian Coleman

Brian A. Coleman

DC Bar No. 459201

Jennifer T. Criss

DC Bar No. 981982

FAEGRE DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH

LLP

1500 K Street, NW – Suite 1100

Washington, DC 20005

Telephone: (202) 842-8800

Fax: (202) 842-8465

brian.coleman@faegredrinker.com jennifer.criss@faegredrinker.com

Hope M. Lloyd

NY Bar No. 3903754

BROADCAST MUSIC, INC.

7 World Trade Center

250 Greenwich Street

New York, NY 10007-0030

Telephone: (212) 220-3148

Fax: (212) 220-4490

hlloyd@bmi.com

### SESAC PERFORMING RIGHTS, LLC

/s/ John Beiter

John C. Beiter TN Bar No. 12564 Beiter Law Firm, PLLC P.O. Box 120433 Nashville, TN 37212 Telephone: (615) 488-0088 john@beiterlaw.com

Christos P. Badavas NY Bar No. 2673838 SESAC PERFORMING RIGHTS, LLC 152 West 57th Street, 57th Floor New York, NY 10019 Telephone: (212) 586-3450 cbadavas@sesac.com